



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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## **TUBERCULOSIS CASE REPORTED AT PATRICK HENRY HIGH SCHOOL** *County Health and School Officials Notified Students, Staff, Faculty*

A Patrick Henry High School student was recently diagnosed with tuberculosis (TB) and may have exposed students, staff and faculty, the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency reported today.

The County is working with the San Diego Unified School District to notify individuals who were in close contact with the student and potentially exposed to the disease. The period of exposure was from Sept. 7 to Dec. 16.

"TB testing will be provided for the school on Jan. 11. Testing is important for those who are at risk, in order to identify individuals with early infection before they become ill with TB," said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer. "The good news is that TB can be treated and cured with medication."

Symptoms of active TB include persistent cough, fever, night sweats and unexplained weight loss. Most people who are exposed to TB do not develop the disease. Prolonged close contact with an individual who has TB is required in order to spread the disease to others.

Individuals who need testing and have no medical provider, or need more information, may call the County TB Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

Tuberculosis is not uncommon in the San Diego region. This is the 190th case in 2010. In 2009, there were 229 cases reported in San Diego County.

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